

guile in More's character, but admits that he was such a genius that "he could execute anything well that he turned his attention to". His first escapade was at Mr. Bond's, where he made himself so popular that a Miss Bond fell in love with him and married him in spite of the protestations of her father. He left Bond's employ, and entered on a new line of business, combining the occupations of pedlar and tailor quite successfully, purchasing his supplies in Halifax, where a number of unaccountable and mysterious thefts were alarming the community. Articles of plate were missing from gentlemen's houses, silver watches disappeared and, among other things, three volumes of late Acts of Parliament were purloined—an unusual bait for the average thief, but Smith produced the missing volumes when a reward of three guineas was offered. He was at once suspected, but disappeared before a warrant could be issued—travelling by horseback. In an Eastern city he entered into an agreement with the Colonel of the 99th Regiment to supply him with a mate to a black horse. The Colonel advanced fifteen pounds to enable Smith to secure the animal he had selected and which he eventually stole. Smith was soon apprehended and placed in gaol where he behaved "with becoming propriety, turned his attention to the Bible and perused it with an air of much seriousness, as though the concerns of the unseen world engrossed all his thoughts".

About this time he showed symptoms of a severe cold, and although suffering great pain "submitted to his confinement without a murmur or complaint". He claimed that his side had been injured by the man who arrested him and who made a violent assault on him. His condition was, in a short time, so serious that it was apparent he had not many days to live, and a Rev. Mr. Scovil became deeply interested in him. Apparently he had a convulsion and said "it was a family infirmity and that many of his connections had died in that way". He was prepared for death, and the gaol authorities made arrangements for an inquest, also took an ante mortem statement. The patient made his will and Mr. Scovil left the gaol expecting to hear of the prisoner's death in a few hours. In order that he might die comfortably the clergyman's good wife sent a feather mattress to the gaol. Things progressed unfavourably and Smith becoming worse, was found "in the agonies of a fit almost expiring. He made an effort to speak and begged the attendant to run and heat a brick that was near and apply it to his feet, to give him one moment's relief while he was dying, for his feet were already cold and dead to his knees". The attendant did as he was asked, and returning in a few minutes "to his indescribable astonishment, and almost unwilling to believe the evidence of his senses, the dying man had disappeared and could not be found". Not only had he vanished but "he had not left a vestige of his movables behind him".